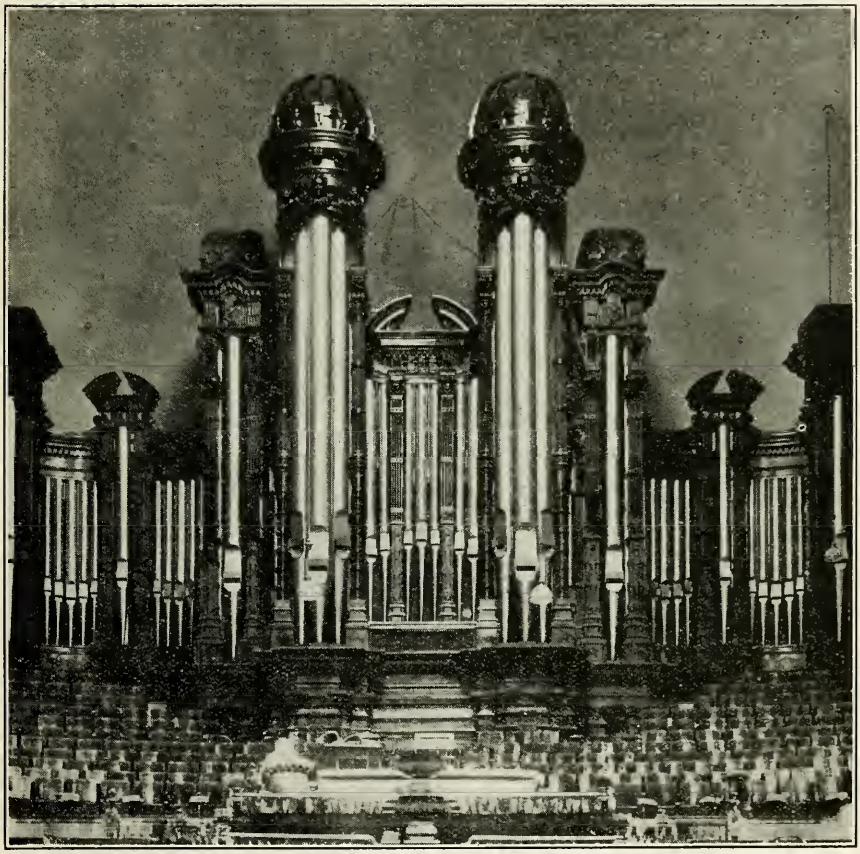
THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840



The Great Tabernacle Organ

Its Resonant Roll Attends The Conference

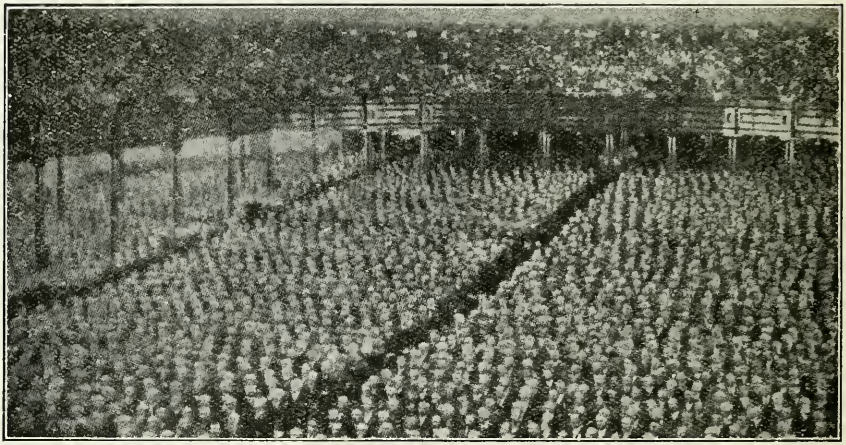
(See article page 258)

No. 17, Vol. 98 | Thursday, April 23, 1936 | Price Two Pence

WHEN MILLIONS HEARD A MORMON CONFERENCE

FROM inside the great domed Tabernacle resting in a valley of greening lawns and blossoming gardens which a century ago was a sagebrush waste, a concourse of nearly 10,000 voices vibrated out over the ethereal waves to the ears of millions of listeners. Almost an entire continent of radio folk was catching the strains of the 106th Annual General Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, broadcast from Salt Lake City over the facilities of the Columbia Broadcasting System network of about seventy stations in Canada and America.

Columbia's "Church of The Air" programme was one of the features of the three-day gathering, April 4-6, of saints from all over North America and even from the islands of the sea in that beautiful setting in Salt Lake Valley, cupped by snow-capped



SAINTS ASSEMBLED IN THE GREAT TABERNACLE

A mighty concourse of 10,000 voices vibrated out over the ethereal waves

mountains and symmetrically marked off by long, wide streets. Speakers on the radio programme which was heard by millions were President Heber J. Grant, President J. Reuben Clark Jr. and President David O. McKay of the First Presidency. It was the first time that all three members of the First Presidency had participated together on a national broadcast.

Three hymns were sung by the Tabernacle congregation on the radio presentation given Sunday, April 5. Among them was *An Angel From On High*, a favorite Latter-day Saint hymn written by Elder Parley P. Pratt, an early missionary in Britain and first editor of the *Millennial Star*. Other hymns were *How Firm A Foundation* and *Doxology*.

In addition to the half-hour conference broadcast, the Tabernacle Choir programme, the oldest regular national broadcast in America, was given earlier in the day over Columbia. This

broadcast, now one hour in length, has been sent out over an international hookup since 1929.

But the radio broadcasts are only a few of the highlights of the Conference which will be remembered, which will radiate their uplifting influence into the souls of saints scattered throughout almost every civilized land in the world.

All of the Twelve Apostles, save two, were in attendance at the sessions in the great Mormon Tabernacle, which was completed by the Pioneers in 1867 and which today is famous for its sonorous organ and its extraordinary acoustics. Those absent were President Joseph F. Merrill and Elder Alonzo A. Hinckley of the Council of Twelve Apostles. President Merrill is in London presiding over the European Mission and Elder Hinckley is convalescing in California from a recent illness.

Preliminary to the general sessions, which commenced Saturday, April 4, was the Relief Society Conference in the Tabernacle. This two-day gathering of women was addressed Friday morning, April 3, by President Grant and President Clark and concluded later in the day with remarks from Sister Louise Y. Robison, general president of the Church's oldest auxiliary. President Robison, who is also a director on the executive board of America's National Council of Women, pleaded for more active charity and for a more abundant and harmonious life in the home.

Saturday's Sessions—Long before the Conference was scheduled to begin people began filing through the gates of the high wall which surrounds Temple Square. Many of them came under umbrellas. There was a cold drizzle. By 10 a.m., opening time, the spacious Tabernacle was filled to capacity. On the stand

IN MEMORY OF THE ORGAN BUILDER

CHARACTERISTIC of all General conferences of the Church in the Tabernacle are the melodic strains of the famous organ (see cover). Its sweet and sonorous notes accompany the songs of the assembled saints and the choir. On the wings of its music broadcast on an international radio network, its fame has gone around the world.

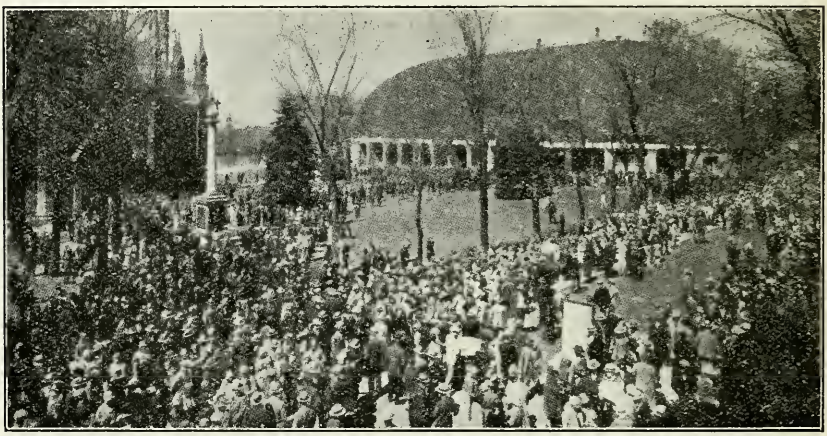
The organ was originally built by a native Briton, the late Elder Joseph H. Ridges. His memory was honoured last March 30 when the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers unveiled a large portrait of him in the Utah State Capitol. Born in Southampton April 25, 1827, he later emigrated to Australia, where he learned the art of organ building in a Sydney factory, before joining the Church in 1856. Emigrating to Utah, he was appointed by Brigham Young to supervise the construction of the organ. The organ was fashioned from white pine hauled by ox-drawn wagons 300 miles from Utah's southern hills. Glue used was made by boiling hundreds of cattle and buffalo skins in large pots over fires.

The Tabernacle organ compares favourably with the noted Freiburg organ and the famed instrument in London's Crystal Palace. The original Ridges organ has been revised until it now includes 2,648 pipes. Just prior to singing to a Tabernacle audience, Madame Schumann-Heink once said that she "counted the music of that organ one of the greatest pleasures of her life."

immediately before the organ sat the First Presidency on the top pulpit tier. On the top and second pulpit tier sat the Council of Twelve, and members of the First Council of Seventy and the Presiding Bishopric occupied the third pulpit tier, and in front of the rostrum were general Church officers. Mission presidents, various units of the Priesthood and general boards of the auxiliaries occupied seats immediately in front and in the wing seats near the pulpit.

The resonant throbs from the large organ of 2,648 pipes announced that another conference in "The City of The Saints" was to commence. To its accompaniment the congregation arose and sang *High On The Mountain Top.* The invocation was offered by President Willard L. Jones of Moapa Stake, and was followed by a rendition from the Hyrum Stake choir, *The Sweet Story Of Old.*

The first treatise on the proceedings was the Church statisti-



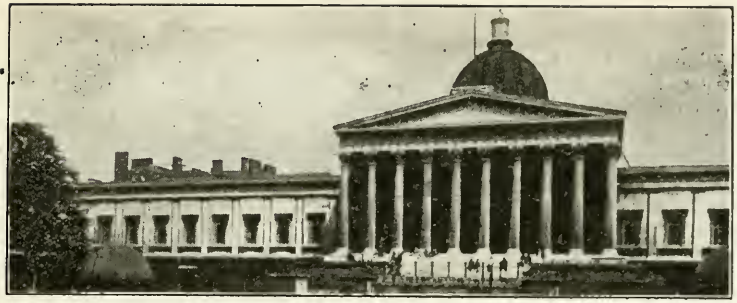
Conference Visitors at the Tabernacle Grounds

"Although it was a week-day, crowds of saints continued to throng . . ."

cal report, presented by President David O. McKay of the First Presidency. Significant figures were contained therein. The membership of the Church, which numbered six at the organization of the Church 106 years ago, reached 746,384 December 31, 1935. Since the General Conference in October one new stake and 11 new wards have been created.

Then President Heber J. Grant arose to sound the keynote of the Conference. President Grant, who has been an Apostle for nearly 54 years and President of the Church for more than 17 years, praised the saints for their whole-hearted loyalty and support to the leadership of the Church. "God has been with the Church since its organization," he said, and quoted statistics showing the marvellous growth of the Church in face of persecution. "And I say unto you," he continued, "that without Divine guidance and inspiration this marvellous growth would have been impossible." President Grant continued to recite

(Continued on page 268)



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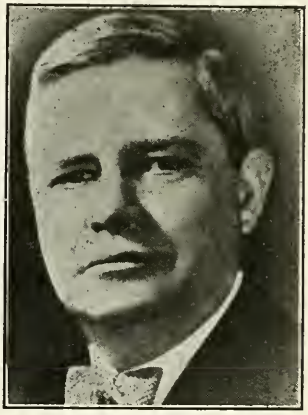
London University College—Scene of the Congress

WORLD CONGRESS HONOURS CHURCH LEADERS

SIGNAL honour has come to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints with the selection of President J. Reuben Clark Jr. of the First Presidency and Elder Joseph F. Merrill, member of the Council of Twelve Apostles and European Mission president, to participate on the programme of the second International Congress of the World Fellowship of Faiths.

The Congress, which will attract leaders in religious thought from all over the world, will convene in London July 3-17. Meetings of the Congress will be held in London University College, and public sessions will take place in Queen's Hall, London. A B. B. C. national broadcast from London Sunday, June 21, will harbinger the conference.



PRESIDENT CLARK

Asked to lead the discussion

President Merrill has been invited to take the Chair at the afternoon session of the Congress in the Great Hall of the University Thursday, July 16, and President Clark has been asked to present a 15-minute paper and lead the discussion at the same meeting. An excerpt from a letter received by President Merrill from Sir Francis Younghusband, chairman of the British National Council and eminent geographer and author, reads:

DEAR DR. MERRILL:

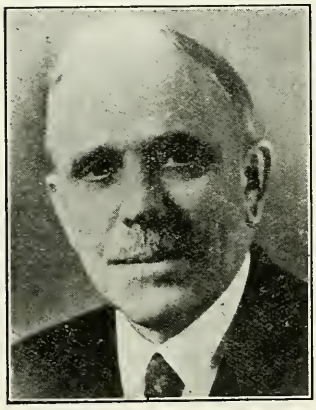
May I ask you the great favour of taking the Chair at the meeting of this Congress at 2:30 p.m. on July 16th in the Great Hall of the University College, when we expect a distinguished Confucian will be speaking on the main theme of the Congress, namely, how to promote the spirit of World Fellowship through religion in face of such evils as Nationalism in excess, Racial Animosity, Fear, Suspicion, Ignorance and Poverty, etc. . . .

Yours sincerely,

(signed) FRANCIS YOUNGHUSBAND

President Clark is particularly well qualified to lead the discussion, for not only is he a leader in religion but also a man with a rich background in international affairs. Beginning April 27, he will represent the United States at a meeting of the League of Nations Committee for the study of international loan contracts in Geneva (*Star*, March 12), sitting around the table with some of Europe's ablest financiers. President Clark is president of the American Foreign Bondholders' Protective Council. He was the United States delegate to the Seventh International Conference of American States (Pan American Conference) in Urugnay three years ago, and was United States ambassador to Mexico (1930-33).

President Merrill, who has a Doctor of Philosophy and a Doctor of Science degree, has made noteworthy contributions in the fields of education and religion. Among them is the Church seminary plan, of which he is the author. This growing system is gaining widespread recognition in America as a new and effective method of religious education. President Merrill, whose name appears in *Who's Who In America*, was Commissioner of Church Education (1928-33) and is now a member of Victoria Institute, or Philosophical Society of Great Britain.



President Merrill.

Invited to take the Chair

It is a special compliment to the Church to have two representatives on the programme of this Congress, which will bring together at its twenty sessions scholars from virtually all of the great world religions. Names of some of those who will give papers indicate the high import and universality of the gathering: Mons. Nicolas Berdiaeff, Russian member of the Orthodox Greek Church; Professor J. L. Magnes, Chancellor of the Hebrew University, Jerusalem; Sheikh El Maraghi, rector of the Al Azhar University, Cairo and formerly Grand Cadi (civil judge) of the Soudan; Dr. Louis Massignon of College de France and Sir Abdul Qadir, member of the Council of India. The Confucian who will address the session at which President Clark will lead the discussion and President Merrill will occupy the Chair represents the largest non-Christian religion in the world from the standpoint of adherents, with 350,600,000.

H. H. The Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda (India) is international president of the World Congress of Faiths, which held its first international convention in Chicago in August, 1933.

The theme of the Congress will be "World Fellowship Through Religion," and the objects are:

1. To discover what the various faiths can contribute towards the establishment of "World Fellowship."
2. To discuss hindrances to "World Fellowship" such as class distinction, nationalism in excess or defect, economic difficulties, conflicts of religion, race, language, etc.
3. To seek for methods of expressing that supreme ideal of human life which every man of whatever race or creed is seeking in his heart.

Among the many supporters of the Congress are the Dean of Canterbury, the Dean of St. Paul's, Sir Norman Angell, renowned author and lecturer; The Reverend H. R. L. Sheppard, Canon of St. Paul's, and Viscount Halifax, former Secretary of War and president of the Board of Education and now Lord Privy Seal.

The late President B. H. Roberts of the First Council of Seventy gave an address at the First International Congress of the World Fellowship of Faiths, in Chicago, August 29, 1933. His subject was "The Standard of Peace."

Elder James E. Talmage, late member of the Council of Twelve Apostles, delivered an address, "The Philosophic Basis of Mormonism," before the Congress of Religious Philosophies at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco July 29, 1915. This succinct treatise on Latter-day Saint theology now appears in pamphlet form.

The appointment of two Latter-day Saint leaders on the programme of the 1936 Congress is indicative of the growing esteem for the Church throughout the religious world.

It is interesting to note that the Congress will convene at the corinthian-porticoed University (see cut) during the centennial year of its incorporation by Royal Charter.—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

TRANSLATING OUR RELIGION

ALL should take pride in making Mormonism a synonym for trustworthiness, temperance, chastity, honesty, justice—these are fundamental principles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and by exemplifying them in our lives we translate our religion into better social conditions and bring salvation and peace to men hereafter and now.—PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

DISTRICT President Frederick William Oates conducted the evening session of Newcastle District Conference in West Hartlepool Branch Chapel Sunday, April 12. There were 137 persons in attendance.

The whole evening was devoted to the theme of love. Brother Wilfrid H. Wheatley, visiting from Salt Lake City, spoke on the love that drives us on in our genealogical and temple work. Sister Ramona W. Cannon, Mission Relief Society president, talked on the love we are obligated to maintain for one another, and President Joseph J. Cannon spoke of the great love the Saviour showed in His making atonement for our personal sins and the redemption of all mankind from the eternal loss of their bodies through bringing about the universal resurrection of mankind.

Brother George Wappett of the district presidency conducted the afternoon testimony meeting, and Brother Arthur Finlay of the district presidency conducted the morning meeting. Talks on the model Sunday School programme were given by Brother Charles Derek Harland and Sister Evelyn Burgon. Elder Bertram T. Willis, Mission Sunday School superintendent, President Oates and Supervising Elder Clair M. Aldrich spoke.

The District Singing Mothers and Daughters, the Mission M Men Quartette and Sister Marjorie Parks and Miss Marie Parks (vocal duet) provided music at the sessions.

A concert was held Saturday evening, April 11.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1936

EDITORIAL

THE 106th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ELSEWHERE in this issue of the *Star* we publish a brief report of the 106th Annual Conference of the Church, held in Salt Lake City, April 4, 5 and 6. These conferences have reached the distinction of being the largest religious gatherings of the kind in America. The one recently held was especially notable, being the first one in the history of the Church to furnish the programme of the "Church of The Air"—a weekly Sunday programme that is broadcast by a national hook-up of about seventy stations of the Columbia network. Thus on Sunday morning, April 5, millions of homes in North America had the privilege of hearing the "message of Mormonism" as it fell from the lips of the three members of the First Presidency.

But money will do anything in America, do you say? Well, the Church paid not a penny for this opportunity of speaking to North America. The privilege was granted gratis by the Columbia officials. This fact bears eloquent testimony of the high respect in which the Church is now held in America.

The "Church of The Air" programme was preceded an hour before by the weekly Tabernacle Choir and Organ programme of one hour's length which is regularly given a nation-wide broadcast by the C. B. S. As the *Star* has previously stated, this programme of sacred music is now the most famous and highly prized regular Sunday morning musical event in America.

Of course, all Latter-day Saints rejoice and thank the Lord and the C. B. S. officials that the Sunday Tabernacle events have attained their present distinction. On Sunday morning, April 5, Tabernacle doings were on the air of all America for 90 minutes; every Sunday for 60 minutes. For these things all Latter-day Saints feel like singing joyously:

> Hail to the brightness of Zion's glad morning,
> Long by the Prophets of Israel foretold.

But to get a real appreciation of what a general conference is like one needs to be there and see and hear and feel what takes place. We hope that the words and pictures we publish, together with an active imagination, will enable our readers to understand something of the great joy felt by the multitudes who were privileged to attend. We urge our readers to seek the same divine Spirit that was prevalent in the meetings of this Conference as an aid to helping them understand its great value to the Church and its members.

"Zion is growing." Every year for a long time sees the Church larger and stronger than the year before. On the whole the Latter-day Saints were never better and more faithful than today. A steady increase in faith and good works as well as in numbers and respect of the public have therefore marked the growth of the saints during many years.—JOSEPH F. MERRILL.

UNENDING PERPLEXITIES

CHANCELLOR SCHUSCHNIGG of Austria, the public press told recently, published a statement on the political situation in which he said: "The dream of paradise on earth as conceived by President Wilson when he started to liquidate the last great war is for the present at an end. From fine resolutions and theoretical confessions of faith we have passed to an unheard-of scramble for armaments. The result is disgust and nervousness. Exaggerated caution and insufficient prevision have confounded the possibility of permanent solutions of our troubles."

Thus, in the opinion of Dr. Schuschnigg, anxiety and trouble are to continue. And if they do, the situation is likely to get worse instead of better. This is in accord with natural law. An ill gets better or worse—does not stand still. We are living in a time when "men's hearts are failing them for fear." And according to revelation this condition is one of the indications of the "second coming" of the Saviour, this time in transcendent glory. To the believer the "signs of the times" excite the greatest interest.

We refer above to what Dr. Schuschnigg said. He is a politician. But this thought, or similar ones, is apparently in the minds of many public men of the day whether they are politicians, preachers, or what not. In his evening sermon at St. Paul's on Easter Sunday, the Bishop of London said the world's outlook is the worst it has been in eighteen years. In maintaining this view he referred to current conditions in several of the leading nations. The Christian religion as well as international peace, he asserted, is faced with a future that looks anything but bright. The spirit of the day is anti-Christian, and so long as it remains so we have no promise of improved conditions. The Lord will not be mocked.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE NOTICES

SHEFFIELD Branch hall, Ellesmere and Lyons roads, will be the scene of Sheffield District conference Sunday, April 26. President Joseph F. Merrill and President Joseph J. Cannon will attend. Sessions will commence at 11 a.m., 2:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Nottingham District conference will meet in Greyfriars' Hall, Collins Street, Nottingham, Sunday, May 3, sessions beginning at 11 a.m., 2:30 and 6:00 p.m. President Merrill and President Cannon will be present.

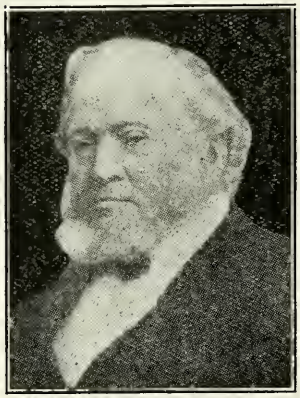
A Saturday evening concert will precede each conference.

THIS WEEK IN MORMON HISTORY

It Was The Pioneer's Sabbath Out On The Prairie

ONE Sabbath day, somewhere along the Pioneer trail not far from the wide, shallow Platte River is not a date which chroniclers will remember nor people commemorate. But an almost forgotten Sunday—**April 25**, 1847—brings to us today from the dimming twilight of the past a touching, as well as representative, story of the Mormon Pioneer, whom history and heritage can never forget.

Preserved during these passing days are the journals of some of the 148 members of that First Company, led across the uncharted and unblazed route by President Brigham Young, which describes the events of that particular Sabbath, a typical Sunday on the Plains. It is valuable not only for its interest, but for the index it gives into the lives, the hopes, the convictions of those pilgrims of the prairies who were driven from beautiful Nauvoo on the Mississippi to find a new abode in the desert vales of the Rockies.



PRESIDENT YOUNG
He organized groups to hunt buffalo

Picture the camp when the company bugler sounded his shrill, awakening blast at the arising hour of 5 a.m. Seventy wagons, all covered with white "sunbonnets," formed a large half circle, faces outward. Many times it was a full circle. Inside the protected enclosure, oxen, cows, horses and mules fed on the grass. Under the "sunbonnets" the Pioneers slept. To the east flowed Loup Fork, a tributary of the Platte. The company had forded the Fork the previous day by putting four or five yoke of oxen or two or three span of horses to each wagon. Nearby was a small lake. William Clayton, Lancashire-born member of the company, had provided a tasty supper the night before with sunfish caught from the lake.

These first Pioneers, all men save three women and two children, were now entering the lands of the Redman. Near the camp fresh footprints had been discovered. As a precautionary measure, the camp guard had been doubled the night before. The crude cannon had been rolled into position.

There were dangers other than those of the Indian. Deadly rattlesnakes weaved through the grass and over the rocks. Dry winds warped the wagon wheels, causing breakdowns. Then there were miscellaneous mishaps coming up all the time. For example, President Young had just lost a favourite horse when the animal fell into a small ravine and choked itself by the chain drawn around its neck.

Sunday morning was different from no other morning in that private prayers were held before any of brethren left their wagons. After thanksgiving to the Lord, the travellers tended to their cattle.

A beautiful sky greeted the Pioneers on this day of peace and rest. Only the tinkling of cowbells and the occasional honking of wild geese overhead penetrated the serene atmosphere. During the day four antelope appeared across the river. It was the first time some of the brethren had seen these fleet, horned animals of white and brown. Spyglasses were lifted, but no guns. The order of the camp was that there should be no hunting or fishing or unnecessary labour on the Sabbath.

WILLIAM CLAYTON records a miraculous healing in the camp during the day. One of the older members of the company, Elijah Newman, had been afflicted in his legs with black scurvy, and had not been able to walk without sticks. But after supplication to the Lord in his behalf "he returned to his wagon without any kind of help, seemingly much better."

At 5 p.m. Sunday services began. It must have been a picturesque sight, that gathering of sturdy frontiersmen for worship. They were always ready to meet in religious services, for the very purpose of their 111-day journey, their trials, their tribulations was to find a place "faraway in the west" where they and their families could worship according to the dictates of their conscience—worship in the Church which they knew to be the very Church of the Master, restored in this day to their Prophet who had been martyred less than three years before. More picturesque, still, must have been the choir of the plains as they sang *This Earth Was Once A Garden Place*, composed by William W. Phelps, Mormon poet and statesman. The last verse expresses a hope which must have throbbed in their bosoms:

Hosannah to such days to come,
The Saviour's second coming.
When all the earth in glorious bloom
Affords the saints a holy home,
Like Adam-ondi-Ahman.

There were many noble men in that assemblage. Several of them, such as Orson Pratt, Wilford Woodruff, Heber C. Kimball and George A. Smith, had distinguished themselves as early missionaries in Britain. After the invocation by Apostle Kimball, Apostle George A. Smith preached a sermon, reminding the brethren of the words of the Prophet Joseph Smith, that to kill any animals or birds or anything created by Almighty God merely for the sake of destroying it was not in accordance with His will.

While he spoke, a wolf appeared from out of the woods to the right of the camp, and leisurely meandered within about fifty rods of the wagon. But the meeting proceeded uninterrupted, President Young following Elder Smith with a few remarks.

After sundown President Young met with members of the Twelve Apostles and others near his wagon for the purpose of organizing a company of buffalo hunters. There were eight horses in the company not attached to a team, so eight mounted "nimrods" were appointed, supported by 11 others to hunt on

foot. Hunters were assigned because game was becoming plentiful and the leaders realized that without organization there would be a danger of waste, and "waste is sin."

At 9 p.m. the camp fires went out, and the pathmakers retired to their wagons for private prayer and then bed. The guards returned to their posts. Soon all was quiet again under the stars on the banks of the Loup Fork.

That was the "end of a perfect day" on the prairie—out where the West begins!

Other Anniversaries This Week

April 23—Sixty-sixth birthday anniversary of Elder Alonzo A. Hinckley of the Council of Twelve. Born at Cove Fort, Utah (a retreat for settlers from marauding Redmen), he was ordained an Apostle October 11, 1934. For many years he was president of Millard Stake.

April 26, 1839—Elder Wilford Woodruff was ordained an Apostle at the age of 32. He later became president of the Church.—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

WHEN MILLIONS HEARD A MORMON CONFERENCE

(Concluded from page 260)

instances in his experience during only the past year which bespeak the growing esteem that the world is showing for the Church.

President Grant was followed by Elder George Albert Smith of the Council of Twelve. Tracing the history of the Book of Mormon, 50,000 copies of which are sold in 17 different languages each year, Elder Smith mentioned the increasing respect shown by the world from the time the Book was first printed in 1830 to 1936, when copies of it appeared in Braille for the first time.

Then remarks were made by President Rudger Clawson of the Council of Twelve Apostles, who, like President Grant, President McKay and Elder Smith, is known to British saints as a former president of the European and British Mission.

Concluding speaker at this first session of the conference was Presiding Bishop Sylvester Q. Cannon.

Another large congregation was in attendance at the Saturday afternoon session. Elder Reed Smoot of the Council of Twelve Apostles was the first speaker. Elder Smoot, for thirty years a United States Senator—and much of the time a leading one—stated that the principles given by the Master will alone save the troubled world. Then the General Authorities followed.

The general session was followed by an Aaronic Priesthood Convention in the Assembly Hall (in Temple Square), a Leadership Training Conference for the Aaronic Priesthood in Barrett Hall, Primary Association Conference in the Assembly Hall and a General Priesthood Meeting in the Tabernacle in the evening.

Sunday Sessions—With the Tabernacle filled to overflowing and several thousands of others in the Temple grounds outside, the Columbia broadcasts began at 9:20 a.m. In his sermon which was heard by millions, President Grant said, "I am convinced

without doubt, that a revelation in the book of Doctrine and Covenants, known as the Word of Wisdom, given by the Lord, the Creator of heaven and earth, to the Prophet Joseph Smith over 100 years ago, would solve the economic problems not only of our country but of every other country if it were obeyed by the people of the world."

President Clark stated the faith, belief and knowledge of the Latter-day Saints regarding Jesus of Nazareth. He said we believed, as John declared, that Jesus Christ was Creator of the earth. We also believed that through Him a literal resurrection is inherited by all men, and that He appeared to the Prophet Joseph Smith and restored His Gospel in this day.

"Remember the worth of souls is great in the sight of the Lord" was the text of President McKay's radio address.

In addition to the radio talks, sermons were delivered by others of the General Authorities before the morning session came to a close.

With President Grant announcing the speakers and musical numbers, the fourth general session of the conference began Sunday afternoon. Sermons were given by the First Presidency and some of the members of the Council of Twelve and First Presidents of Seventy.

IN the evening Sunday School Conference was held, featuring a pageant demonstration of cultural and spiritual development sought by young people in the Church. It was directed by General Superintendent George D. Pyper.

Other Sunday meetings included an M. I. A. Joint Officers' Meeting, a Department of Education Meeting, Seventies' Conference and Scandinavian Conference.

Monday Sessions—Although it was a week-day, crowds of faithful saints continued to throng into the Tabernacle grounds to hear the counsel of leaders. The sessions began at 10 a.m., with Elder George F. Richards of the Council of Twelve Apostles, another former European and British Mission president, the opening speaker. Before a filled house, Elder Richards exhorted his listeners to conquer economic ills by the observance of tithes and offerings. Sermons from other Authorities followed. Music at the meetings this day was provided by the large group of Relief Society Singing Mothers.

Beginning at 12:15 p.m. was a Summer Camp Meeting for the Y. W. M. I. A. in the Bishop's Building, across the wide street from Temple Square. Beginning at 2 p.m. the sixth general session, meeting on the 106th anniversary day of the organization of the Church, concluded the conference. At this service the names of the General Authorities were presented, and all were unanimously sustained with a forest of upraised hands. Two new names appeared on the list: Elder John F. Bennett, new member of the Church auditing committee, and Elder D. Sterling Wheelwright, assistant Tabernacle choir director.

During the Conference days, socials and reunions of missionaries and saints from the various missions were held.

That is what the 106th annual General Conference was like—a time of renewing old acquaintances, rejoicing in the inspired words of the leaders and resolving to carry their counsel into the work as the Church moves gloriously on.—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

OF CURRENT INTEREST

Advice—Sir James Alexander Cooper, one of Britain's foremost business men, died March 21. Starting as an office apprentice at £10 a year, he became a director of the Lancashire Cotton Corporation, Vickers-Armstrong, Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Company, and chairman of other companies. After the War he sold surplus wool for the Government and the profits brought millions. Before his death he left a short but trenchant bit of advice to youth. Said he: "Get all the book learning you can—but above all get and keep a reputation for reliability. Brains are useful, but character tells."

Meals—Professor V. H. Mottram of London University, eminent authority and writer of dietetic subjects, writes (*The Listener* April 8, 1936): "Have you realized that bread, milk or cheese and a tomato, or instead of the tomato some watercress or celery, form practically a perfect meal? The same can be said of bread, a grilled herring and a big squeeze of lemon. A kipper and a potato boiled in its skin run these close. In each of these suggestions there is included protective foods, body-building foods and body-warming foods. In fact, the meals are balanced. Elaborate meals and elaborate cooking make for unbalanced meals and, indirectly, unbalanced tempers."

NEWS OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

Theatrical Stage Employees' Union members honoured Elder George D. Pyper, general superintendent of the Sunday Schools, on the seventy-third anniversary (March 6) of the dedication of the Salt Lake Theatre (*Star* cover Oct. 31, 1935) by presenting him a life's membership in the organization. Superintendent Pyper was manager of the Theatre for more than thirty years prior to its being torn down in 1928. The presentation on behalf of the Union, affiliated with an organization extending throughout the United States and Canada, was made by nine members, some of whom laboured backstage with Elder Pyper at the Theatre forty years ago. Elder Pyper describes the history of the Theatre in a delightful book, *The Romance of An Old Playhouse*. Erected under the direction of President Brigham Young, the Theatre was described by M. B. Leavitt in his *Fifty Years of The American Stage* as "not surpassed in the magnitude, completeness and equipment by any other existing house."

Bochum is a German city in the Rhine zone, not far from the Dutch and Belgian frontiers. In January police officials of this city stopped tracting activities of Latter-day Saint missionaries. Frequently visiting the *Kommissar* (officer in charge of all churches in the province of Westfalen), travelling elders in time arranged to present an illustrated lecture, "Utah, The Wonderland of America." The lecture, planned by Elders Stephen C. Richards, Edwin Butterworth and Albert Schiffler, was recently given before Bochum police officials in the hallway of the *Praesidium* (central police headquarters). Two weeks later permission to tract and to give illustrated lectures was granted elders, not only for Bochum but for the entire province of Westfalen.

National Director of Senior Scouting in America, Mr. Thomas J. Keane of New York City, said (Feb. 16) during a visit to Salt Lake City: "World-wide Boy Scout activities attain their highest degree of excellence in Utah due to support given the movement by church, civic and city officials." He added that Utah Scouts are "recognized over the world as the finest." Organized in the Church November 29, 1911, Boy Scouts in Latter-day Saint troops number more than 24,000 in 22 different countries.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Doings in the Districts: ***London***—A Sunday School concert was held in Luton Branch hall Saturday, March 28, under the direction of the superintendency, Brothers Albert Worby and Kenneth G. Simpson and Sister Joan H. Simpson. A programme was given by the Luton Harmonica Band, under the direction of Mr. William A. Carter, supported by Mr. A. Williams and partner in "Magic," Mr. E. Hyde, elocutionist, and "Frank Roy," accordionist. Eighty guests, including many non-members, were present. One thousand programmes, designed by Branch President William H. Gadd and Brother Albert Worby and supported by local tradesmen, were distributed. Brother William A. Smith arranged the programme. Sisters Joan Simpson, Phyllis Clayton, Violet Clayton and Edna C. Gadd served refreshments. Honoured guests were District President Andre K. Anastasiou, his counsellor, Brother Alfred J. Willmott, and Brother John Bleakley of Southwest Branch.

A New Home

THE first Latter-day Saint function to be held in "Ravenslea," new home of Southwest London Branch, took place Easter Monday, April 13. The occasion was the annual London District M Men-Gleaner banquet, attended by 122 guests.

Beginning with an afternoon reception, the affair included a dinner, programme and dance in the beautiful new place, formerly a commodious residential abode, near Clapham Common, London. Brother James P. Hill was toastmaster, and toasts were given by Brother John Bleakley ("To The Past"), James Cunningham ("To The Future"), Lewis H. Tarr ("To Ravenslea"), and George Goundry ("To The Gleaners") and Sister Winnie Willmott ("To The M Men"). Remarks were made by President Joseph F. Merrill of the European Mission and District President Andre K. Anastasiou. President Merrill said that he hoped that the acquisition would mark the beginning of a new era of growth and activity in Southwest Branch. A reading was given by Sister Madeline E. R. Hill, a vocal solo by Sister Elsie Osborne and vocal selections by a missionary trio (Elders Fred R. Glade, M. Neff Smart and Alton Fogg Harris).

The event was planned by Sisters Lillian Torrens (chairman) and Mildred Poole, Brother Goundry and Elders Glade and Smart.

"Ravenslea" will be formally opened at Sunday service May 3.

A genealogical service was conducted in North London Branch hall Sunday evening, March 29. Sister Maude A. Hawkes, class leader, demonstrated genealogy work, and Elder John W. Boud spoke. Sister Inez C. Russell sang a solo.

A novelty social was held by North London Branch Sunday School in the branch hall, Monday evening, March 30. All ladies brought picnic parcels, which were auctioned off to gentlemen present. Each partner for refreshments was the lady who had prepared the gentleman's purchase. Brother A. John Willmott was master of ceremonies. The evening also included games and dancing.

Birmingham—Eighty members and friends attended Nuneaton Branch Gold and Green ball in Masonic Hall Saturday, March 28. Y. M. M. I. A. President Edgar A. Cater and Sisters Marjorie Hugo and Lucy Nightingale were in charge. District President Norman Dunn and his wife, Sister Florence Dunn, were special guests. Miss

Audrey Thompson was crowned beauty queen. Brother Harold F. Gunn was master of ceremonies, and the Relief Society and Sunday School provided refreshments.

Sister Elsie May Linnett was in charge of a genealogical conference of Nuneaton Branch in Masonic Hall Sunday, March 29. She was assisted by Sisters Lily J. Gunn and Lucy Nightingale. Speakers were Branch President William T. Nightingale, District President Norman Dunn, Brothers Clarence G. Linnett and William Seckington and Sister Gunn.

Y. M. M. I. A. President Edgar A. Cater, assisted by Sisters Marjorie Hugo and Lucy Nightingale, was in charge of a social in Nuneaton Masonic Hall Tuesday, March 31. A programme, games, dancing and refreshments combined to provide an entertaining evening.

Hull—March was a month replete with activity in Gainsborough Branch. On March 2 Elders Ralph W. Hardy and David C. Thomas presented the Red Indian demonstration in the branch rooms. Sunday School conference was held Sunday, March 15, the morning meeting being under the direction of Sister Ellen M. Cavanaugh of the superintendency. Participants included Brothers Ernest Jackson, Thomas J. Mills, Frank Mills and Jack Laughton and Sisters Edna N. Thornton, Ellen M. Cavanaugh, Kathleen A. Thornton, Elizabeth B. Mills, Cissie F. Thornton, Helen Bryant, Amelia M. Ransom, Georgena Walker and Ada Walker. Elder Edwin A. Lyman's farewell address was given in the evening meeting, conducted by Brother Thomas J. Mills. Other speakers were District President Joseph Walker, Supervising Elder John P. Gleave, Brother Arthur E. Ransom and Sister Helen Bryant. Vocal solos were rendered by Miss Ada Simpson and Sister Amelia Ransom of Hull.

Relief Society conference was held in Gainsborough Branch hall Sunday, March 22. Sister M. Cavanaugh, secretary, conducted under the direction of President Mary A. Northgraves. Sisters Maggie Dunstan, Kathleen A. Thornton and Elizabeth B. Mills also took part on the programme, and a sermon was given by Elder Joseph H. Black.

Newcastle—"Service in Song" was theme of Relief Society conference in Sunderland Branch hall Sunday, March 22. President Mary F. Maxwell conducted, Sister Margaret Walker was reader and Sister Gladys Quayle was soloist. An address was given by Elder Arlond T. Christensen.

The Red Indian lecture by Elders Ralph W. Hardy and David C. Thomas featured a Relief Society social in Sunderland Branch hall Wednesday, March 18.

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